

across the eye box such that no perspective change is observed by the user as their eye transitions through the eye box, and may allow rendering of virtual objects at any desired depth from the user (e.g., thus solving accommodation-vergence mismatch). Multi-layer holographic combiner 40 may also pass real world light 30 to eye box 24 (e.g., for overlaying real world and virtual images).

[0044] FIG. 3 is a diagram showing how transmission hologram structures 44 may replicate each ray angle from input light 56 towards reflection hologram structures 42. In the example of FIG. 3, two illustrative rays 56-1 and 56-2 of input light 56 (FIG. 2) are shown for the sake of clarity. Ray 56-1 hits transmission hologram structures 44 at incident angle A1 whereas ray 56-2 hits transmission hologram structures 44 at incident angle A2. Transmission hologram structures 44 may replicate ray 56-1 and ray 56-2 at one or more output angles (e.g., as shown by light 60).

[0045] The transmission holograms in transmission hologram structures 44 may be configured to diffract light from different incident angles and wavelengths at corresponding output angles. The spacing (frequency) of the grating used to form each hologram (e.g., the spacing in refractive index modulations in the holographic medium used to form structures 44) configures that hologram to diffract light of a given wavelength and from a given incident angle at a corresponding output angle (e.g., when the input light is Bragg-matched to the grating). The set of transmission holograms used to form transmission hologram structures 44 may include any desired number of holograms (gratings) having corresponding grating frequencies and orientations (e.g., for diffracting incident light at any desired number of incident angles and wavelengths at any desired number of output angles). Each transmission hologram in the set may be superimposed on the same volume of holographic medium or different transmission holograms in the set may be formed in any desired number of discrete layers.

[0046] In the illustrative example of FIG. 3, the set of holograms in transmission hologram structures 44 include a first transmission hologram configured to diffract light from incident angle A1 (e.g., ray 56-1) at output angle B1 (as shown by ray 60-1), a second transmission hologram configured to diffract light from incident angle A1 at output angle B2 (as shown by ray 60-2), a third transmission hologram configured to diffract light from incident angle A1 at output angle B3 (as shown by ray 60-3), a fourth transmission hologram configured to diffract light from incident angle A1 at output angle B4 (as shown by ray 60-4), and a fifth transmission hologram configured to diffract light from incident angle A1 at output angle B5 (as shown by ray 60-5). In this way, transmission hologram structures 44 may split ray 56-1 into five replicated beams that are transmitted towards reflection hologram structures 42.

[0047] At the same time, the first transmission hologram in transmission hologram structures 44 may diffract light from incident angle A2 (e.g., ray 56-2) at output angle B1 (as shown by ray 60-6), the second transmission hologram may diffract light from incident angle A2 at output angle B2 (as shown by ray 60-7), the third transmission hologram may diffract light from incident angle A2 at output angle B3 (as shown by ray 60-8), the fourth transmission hologram may diffract light from incident angle A2 at output angle B4 (as shown by ray 60-9), and the fifth transmission hologram may diffract light from incident angle A2 at output angle B5 (as shown by ray 60-10). In this way, transmission hologram

structures 44 may split ray 56-2 into five replicated rays that are transmitted towards reflection hologram structures 42. This example is merely illustrative and, in general, transmission hologram structures 44 may include any desired number of holograms for splitting rays 56-1 and 56-2 over any desired number of output angles.

[0048] The first through fifth transmission holograms may be superimposed with each other across the entire length of transmission hologram structures 44 if desired. In another possible arrangement, the first through fifth transmission holograms may be recorded in partially overlapping or non-overlapping regions of transmission hologram structures 44. These transmission holograms or additional transmission holograms in transmission hologram structures 44 may be configured in this manner for replicating (splitting) the incident light from any desired number of incident angles (e.g., across the field of view of the projector) at output angles B1, B2, B3, B4, and B5. This may serve to replicate pupils that are focused onto eye box 24 (FIG. 2) by reflection hologram structures 42. In the example of FIG. 3, operation on light of a single wavelength is shown for the sake of clarity. If desired, the number of holograms in transmission hologram structures 44 may be multiplied for each wavelength of light that is projected onto multi-layer holographic combiner 40 (e.g., the transmission holograms may be color multiplexed).

[0049] FIG. 4 is a diagram showing how reflection hologram structures 42 may focus the light replicated by transmission hologram structures 44 towards eye box 24 (FIG. 2). The example of FIG. 4 only shows the operation of reflection hologram structures 44 on diffracted rays 60-3, 60-4, 60-8, and 60-9 of FIG. 3 for the sake of clarity. In general, reflection hologram structures 42 may include additional holograms for handling each diffracted ray from transmission hologram structures 44.

[0050] The reflection holograms in reflection hologram structures 42 may be configured to diffract light from different incident angles and wavelengths at corresponding output angles. The spacing (frequency) of the grating used to form each hologram (e.g., the spacing in refractive index modulations in the holographic medium used to form structures 42) configures that hologram to diffract light of a given wavelength and from a given incident angle at a corresponding output angle (e.g., when the input light is Bragg-matched to the grating). The set of reflection holograms used to form reflection hologram structures 44 may include any desired number of holograms (gratings) having corresponding grating frequencies and orientations (e.g., for diffracting incident light at any desired number of incident angles and wavelengths at any desired number of output angles). Each reflection hologram in the set may be superimposed on the same volume of holographic medium or different reflection holograms in the set may be formed in any desired number of discrete layers.

[0051] In the illustrative example of FIG. 4, the set of holograms in reflection hologram structures 42 include a first reflection hologram in region 62 that is configured to diffract light from incident angle B3 (e.g., ray 60-3) at output angle C1 (as shown by ray 55-1) and a second reflection hologram in region 62 that is configured to diffract light from incident angle B4 (e.g., ray 60-4) at output angle C1 (e.g., towards eye box 24 of FIG. 2). While not shown in the example of FIG. 4 for the sake of clarity, additional reflection holograms may be recorded in region 62 for diffracting